



State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Traffic Operations MS 36
Office of Truck Services
Headquarters Transportation Permit Office
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, California 94274

Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

Route Color Classification Guide

Anyone may request to classify/re-classify a State route or revise the Red Route Summary Table. All requests shall be submitted to the California Department of Transportation District(s) where the route is located. Using this guide and the Route Classification Checklist or Red Route Summary Table Revision Checklist, Districts process the request per Department standards.

To classify/re-classify routes that fall into the following criteria, use this guide and the Route Classification Checklist (for examples of our pilot car maps and escort criteria visit <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/permits/> and click on "Pilot Car Maps"):

1. Yellow: Multilane freeways (no two lane routes).
2. Green: Two lane expressways and conventional highways with twelve-foot (3.6 meters) lanes and a paved shoulder width greater than or equal to four feet (1.6 meters).
3. Blue: Two lane expressways and conventional highways with a lane width greater than or equal to eleven feet (3.3 meters) and a shoulder width less than four feet (1.6 meters).
4. Brown: Two lane expressways and conventional highways with lane widths less than eleven feet (3.3 meters) and no paved shoulder.
5. Dashed: Used for all routes with a king pin advisory.

For situations that do not fall within the color criteria noted above, a "Red" route classification may be appropriate. For examples of red route classifications and table format, visit the website noted above, click on "Pilot Car Maps" then "Red Route Summary Table." For red route classification, follow this guide and the Red Route Summary Table Revision Checklist. When analyzing a red route classification, address all pertinent issues including the following:

1. Amount and duration of truck encroachment into opposing lanes.
2. Decision sight distance for opposing vehicle and extra-legal transport equipment.
3. Alignment and grade.
4. Accident records.
5. Level of service & operational problems (cross traffic, etc.).
6. Traffic volume (including truck).
7. Pedestrian volume and surroundings (schools, roadside attractions, etc.).
8. Prevailing weather and road conditions.
9. Any other safety, operational or other influencing factors.
10. Input from subject matter experts, public agencies, California Highway Patrol, local law enforcement, transportation industry representatives (California Trucking Association, etc.), local businesses and the public.

If you have any questions, call 916-654-6677 regarding a "route color classification."